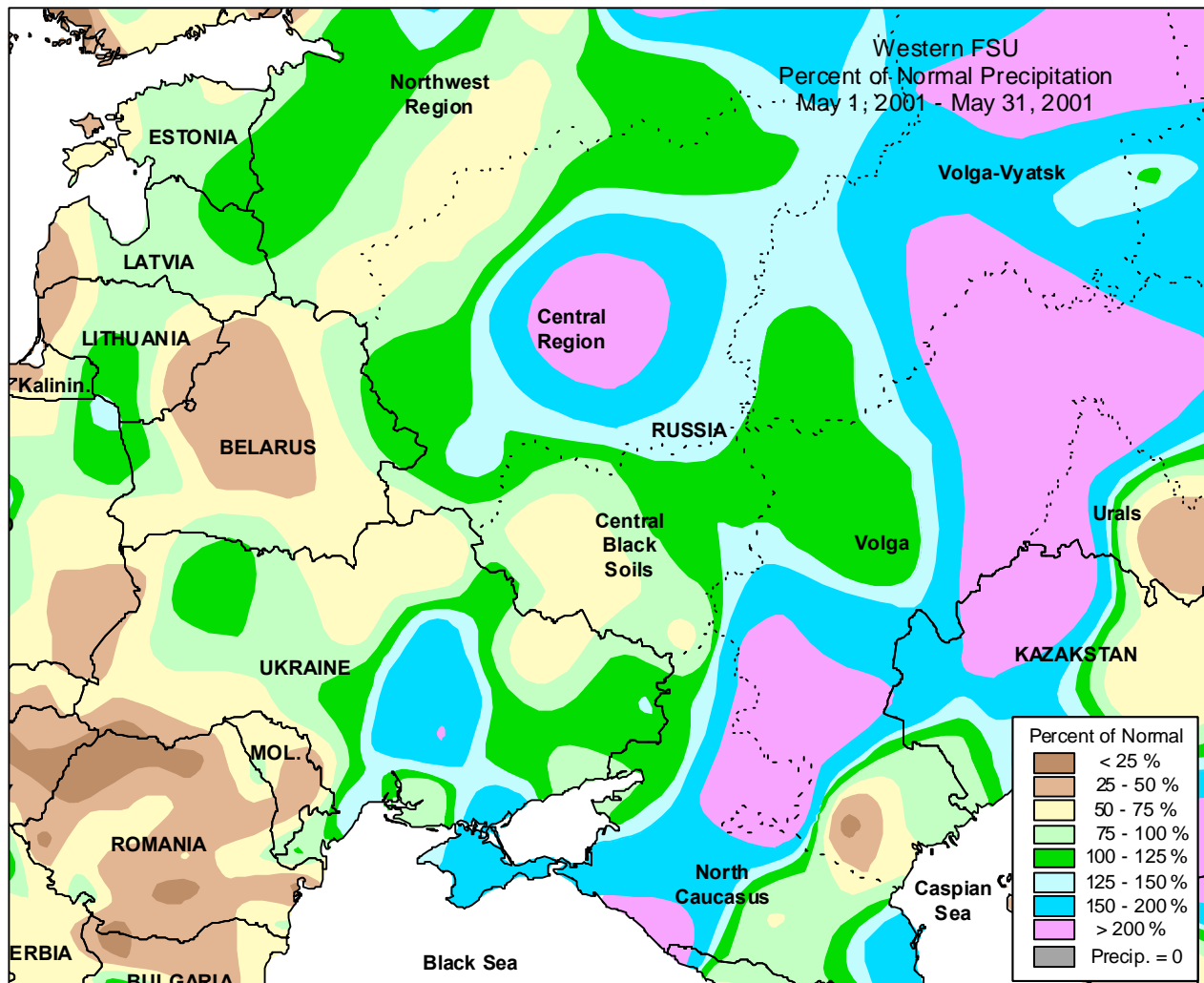


FORMER SOVIET UNION (WESTERN)

Percent of Normal Precipitation (May 2001)



WEATHER AND CROP HIGHLIGHTS

June 12, 2001

JAWF Joint Agricultural Weather Facility
(USDA/NOAA) World Agricultural Outlook Board

- o In May, near- to above-normal precipitation in Ukraine and southern Russia maintained adequate moisture for winter grains and newly emerging spring-sown crops.
- o Near- to below-normal temperatures lowered evaporation rates in most areas, but slowed summer crop emergence and development.
- o In major spring wheat producing areas of Russia and Kazakhstan, unseasonably warm, dry weather in May allowed spring grain planting to progress rapidly. The exception was in East Siberia, Russia, where reports indicated that planting began later than usual due to cold, snowy weather.